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# OHP 1115 Medicaid Waiver 2022-2027

## Community Engagement Webinar

April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Oregon  
Health  
Authority

# Welcome!

- Please keep yourself **muted** until called 
- This Session is being **Recorded** 
- You can also email your input at any time to [1115waiver.renewal@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:1115waiver.renewal@odhsoha.oregon.gov)

# Virtual Meeting Practices

You may notice staff doing the following:

- **Giving Visual Descriptions** of our appearances on-screen
- **Stating our names** each time we speak
- **Pausing** for close captioning
- **Explaining acronyms** the first time they are used

# Introductions and Polls

Feel free to introduce yourself in chat

- Name
- Pronouns

Opening questions:

- What city are you joining us from?
- How would you rate your level of awareness of the OHP 1115

Medicaid Waiver?

# Agenda

- Equity and engagement statements
- Medicaid and Waiver overview
- What's changing
- Timeline
- Community feedback
- Next steps

# Health Equity Goal

Oregon will have established a health system that creates health equity when all people can reach their full health potential and well-being and are not disadvantaged by their race, ethnicity, language, disability, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, social class, intersections among these communities or identities, or other socially determined circumstances.

# Health Equity Goal

Achieving health equity requires the ongoing collaboration of all regions and sectors of the state, including tribal governments to address:

- The equitable distribution or redistribution of resources and power; and
- Recognizing, reconciling and rectifying historical and contemporary injustices.

# OHA's Commitment to Community Engagement

- We acknowledge the State of Oregon (and its systems) has perpetuated institutional, systemic, and structural barriers that have silenced the voices of communities over time.
- We recognize community-engaged health improvement is a long-term and adapting process. OHA is committed to meaningful engagement with communities via traditional and emerging mechanisms for community engagement.

# OHA's Commitment to Community Engagement

- We are committed to transparency. Information will be openly and honestly shared so everyone has the benefit of the same information.
- We welcome feedback about how to make Community Engagement more inclusive and accessible.

# What is Medicaid and the Oregon Health Plan?

- Medicaid is jointly administered by each state and the federal government
- The Oregon Health Plan (OHP) is Oregon's Medicaid Program
- Provides health coverage to 1.48 million Oregonians, including eligible low-income adults, children, pregnant women, elders and people with disabilities



**Free health coverage**  
offered by the state of Oregon

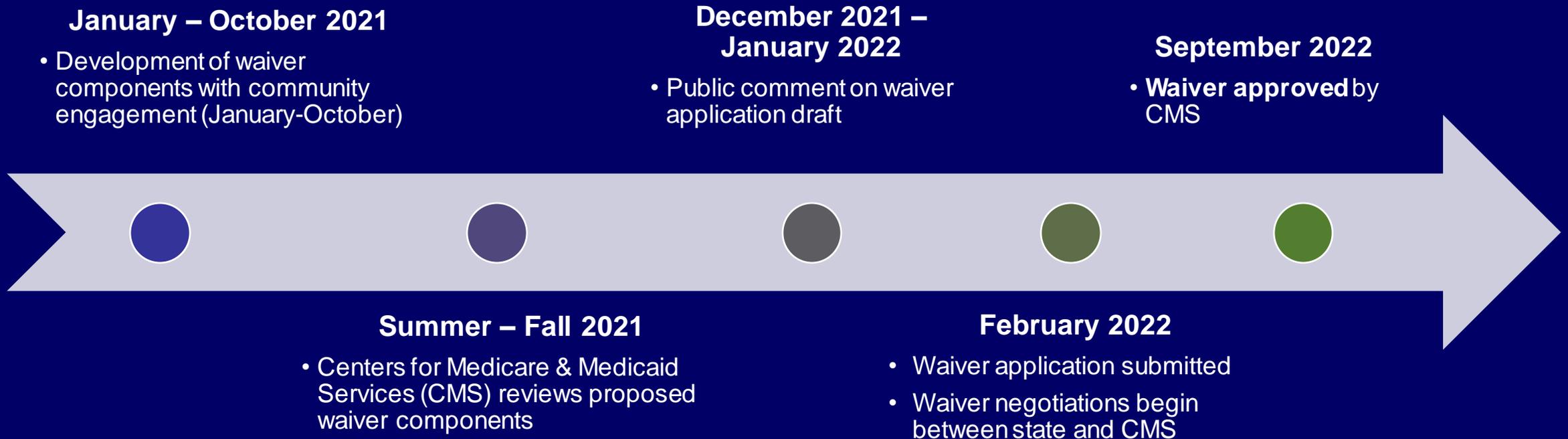
# What's a Waiver?

People are eligible for the Oregon Health Plan based on their income or for other reasons.

Federal rules set minimum standards related to eligibility and required benefits. But **states can ask to WAIVE some federal rules** to have more flexibility and offer the Oregon Health Plan to more people and cover more services than usually allowed.

Every five years, Oregon must renew its agreement with the federal government around the Oregon Health Plan – proposing new changes and continuing existing programs. The federal government can accept or reject these proposals.

# Waiver Timeline – leading up to implementation



# Overarching Waiver Goal: **Advance Health Equity**

Our framework breaks down the drivers of health inequities into actionable sub-goals:



Ensuring people can maintain their health coverage



Improving health outcomes by addressing health related social needs



Ensuring smart, flexible spending for health-related social needs and health equity



Creating a more equitable, culturally- and linguistically-responsive health care system

# New Opportunities: Coverage

## Approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

- Continuous enrollment:
  - Kids stay enrolled until their 6th birthday
  - People ages 6+ automatically stay enrolled for two years (instead of one)
- Expanded health care, including preventative health care services from birth until age 21
- Enhanced coverage for youth with special health care needs ages 19 – 26 with income up to 300% of federal poverty level

## Awaiting CMS approval:

- Limited benefit for some transitioning out of Oregon State Hospital and criminal justice settings
- Tribal requests
- Community Investment Collaboratives

# Health-Related Social Needs – Who will be eligible?

Oregon will provide benefits to people who are going through **transitions**:

- Youth with special health care needs ages 19 - 26
- Youth who are child welfare involved, including leaving foster care at age 18
- People who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness
- Older adults who have both Medicaid and Medicare health insurance
- People being released from jail/corrections, Psych and SUD facilities, including Oregon State Hospital
- People at risk of extreme weather events due to climate change

These benefits are called Health-Related Social Needs in the waiver. Benefits begin in 2024.

# What does the new waiver mean for OHP members in life transitions?

- OHP members who are facing certain life transitions will have social supports available as a covered benefit in OHP
- These supports include:
  - Housing
  - Nutrition
  - Climate-related needs



# Health-Related Social Needs: Housing

- Rental assistance or temporary housing for up to 6 months (such as rent payments and rent deposits)
- Utility assistance for up to 6 months
- Home modifications (such as ramps or handrails)
- Pre-tenancy and tenancy support services (housing applications, moving support, eviction prevention)
- Housing-focused navigation and/or case management



# Health Related Social Needs: Food

- Community-based food resources (such as application support for SNAP and WIC)
- Nutrition and cooking education
- Fruit and vegetable prescriptions (such as VeggieRx) for up to 6 months, and healthy food boxes/meals
- Medically tailored meal delivery



# Health Related Social Needs: Climate

- Payment for devices that maintain healthy temperatures and clean air, including air conditioners, heaters, air filters
- Generators to operate medical devices like ventilators when power outages happen

# Feedback survey

- What topics that we covered today would you like to learn more about in the future?
- What questions do you have about the OHP waiver?
- After participating in this Webinar, how would you rate your level of awareness of the OHP 1115 Medicaid Waiver?
- How can we better reach you/engage with communities?



**Anything  
else?**



# Future webinars

We will be coming back next month!

- First Wednesdays
- Content will depend on your feedback
- Registration coming soon

**Please visit our website for more information, recordings, slides and future webinars!**

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hsd/medicaid-policy/pages/waiver-renewal.aspx>

**Thank you for  
joining us!**

[1115waiver.renewal@odhsoha.Oregon.gov](mailto:1115waiver.renewal@odhsoha.Oregon.gov)